

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

RSR-01 /095 W  
----- 098307

R 301602Z AUG 73  
FM AMCONSUL BELFAST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 555  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 133

AUGUST 30, 1973.

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT , UK (NI)  
SUBJECT: HEATH'S STATEMENT ON NI.

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF HEATH STATEMENT MADE AUGUST 29 AT  
CONCLUSION OF HIS TWO-DAY VISIT TO NORTHERN IRELAND:

BEGIN TEXT

MY MESSAGE TO YOU, THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND, TODAY IS  
SIMPLE AND CLEAR.

IT IS THIS.

YOU NOW HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF RUNNING A LARGE PART OF YOUR  
OWN AFFAIRS AGAIN. THE DANGER OF BOMBINGS AND SHOOTINGS, OF  
POINTLESS INJURIES TO MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN, OF MINDLESS  
MURDER, REMAINS.

MUCH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE BY THE SECURITY FORCES IN ARDUOUS  
CONDITIONS. THE ARMY WILL REMAIN TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK IN  
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SUPPORT OF THE RUC UNTIL VIOLENCE IS OVERCOME. THE RUC WILL  
BE STRENGTHENED AND EXPANDED TO PROVIDE AN EFFICIENT SERVICE,

ACCEPTABLE TO AND ACCEPTED BY ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY  
IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

BUT THE CALL FOR POLITICAL ACTION HAS COME FROM ALL SIDES.

THE NORTHERN IRELAND CONSTITUTION ACT IS NOW THE LAW OF THE LAND  
AND YOU HAVE ELECTED YOUR REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS THEIR TASK TO  
FORM AN EXECUTIVE TO TAKE OVER THE POWERS WHICH THE WESTMINSTER  
PARLIAMENT HAS SHOWN ITSELF PREPARED TO HAND OVER TO THEM.

IT IS YOUR REPRESENTATIVES RESPONSIBILITY TO DO SO WITH ALL  
SPEED.

FOR IF THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND WISH TO MANAGE THEIR DAY  
TO DAY BUSINESS, AS I BELIEVE THEY DO, THERE CAN BE NO JUSTIFICATION  
FOR DELAY.

AND IF POLITICAL ACTIVITY BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE  
OF NORTHERN IRELAND IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE EVENTUAL DEFEAT OF  
VIOLENCE, AS I BELIEVE IT IS, THEN EVERY DAY'S DELAY IS SETTING  
UP AND WORKING THE NEW INSTITUTIONS CAN ONLY MEAN MORE LIVES LOST,  
MORE MAIMED AND WOUNDED BY SENSELESS ATTACKS ON HARMLESS AND  
GUILTYLESS PEOPLE.

I AM PREPARED TO ASK FOR THE RECALL OF THE WESTMINSTER PARLIAMENT  
THE VERY MOMENT PARTIES IN THE ASSEMBLY AGREE TO FORM THE EXECUTIVE.  
IN THIS I HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE TWO OTHER PARTY LEADERS AT  
WESTMINSTER.

I REALISE FULL WELL THAT WE ARE ASKING MUCH OF THE PARTIES OF  
THE ASSEMBLY TO WORK TOGETHER IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WHOLE  
COMMUNITY OF NORTHERN IRELAND.

BUT I MUST TELL YOU QUITE FRANKLY THAT HAVING TAKEN THE NECESSARY  
STEPS TO ENABLE A RESUMPTION OF THE POLITICAL LIFE OF NORTHERN  
IRELAND, THE PEOPLE OF BRITAIN WILL NOT UNDERSTAND ANY RELUCTANCE  
TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF IT.

ALTHOUGH AT THE MOMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY IS BEING KEPT  
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AT WESTMINSTER, THE EXECUTIVE WILL OF COURSE BE ABLE TO DISCUSS  
THESE PROBLEMS WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE  
UNITED KINGDOM CABINET AND SURELY THE OPPORTUNITY OF WORKING  
TOGETHER OVER A WIDE FIELD OF OTHER MATTERS IS ONE WHICH THE  
REPRESENTATIVES IN THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD SEIZE AT ONCE.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE GOVERNMENTS IN WESTMINSTER AND IN DUBLIN,  
TOGETHER WITH THE NORTHERN IRELAND EXECUTIVE, CAN GET ON WITH  
WORKING OUT THE MACHINERY, IN THE FORM OF DEVELOPING INSTITUTIONS,  
TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE IRISH DIMENSION TO WHICH HER

MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT HAS PLEDGED ITSELF.

HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT HAS KEPT FAITH WITH THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND THROUGH THESE MURDEROUS YEARS. THE CONSTITUTION ACT PROVIDES THAT IN NO EVENT WILL NORTHERN IRELAND OR ANY PART OF IT CASE TO BE PART OF THE U.K. WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND VOTING IN A POLL. WE HAVE MAINTAINED THE SECURITY FORCES TO PROTECT ALL, REGARDLESS OF POLITICS OR FAITH.

WE PLEDGED PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT FOR THOSE WILLING TO COVER A WIDE SPECTRUM OF NORTHERN IRISH LIFE. THAT OPPORTUNITY IS OPEN.

WE PLEDGED A PLEBISCITE ON THE BORDER. THAT HAS BEEN HELD AND THE DECISION TAKEN. WE PLEDGED THE ABOLITION OF THE SPECIAL POWERS ACT AND THE CONTROL OF EMERGENCY POWERS BY WESTMINISTER. THAT HAS BEEN DONE.

WE PLEDGED THE REFORM OF JUDICIAL PROCEDURES TO ENABLE THE CRIMINALS TO BE BROUGHT MORE SPEEDILY AND MORE CERTAINLY TO JUSTICE. THAT IS NOW THE LAW.

WE HAVE PLEDGED A CONFERENCE ON MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST TO THE NORTH AND SOUTH. THAT PLEDGE TOO WILL BE HONOURED.

THE REST NOW IS IN THE HANDS OF YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE ASSEMBLY.

LET US GO TO IT IN THE CAUSE OF RESTORING PEACE TO NORTHERN IRELAND AND REBUILDING A FAIR AND PROSPEROUS FUTURE FOR HER  
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PEOPLE.  
PENBERTHY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

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